

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-2, 4-11, and 13-18 will have been canceled. Claims 3 and 12 will have been amended and claims 19-20 will have been newly submitted for consideration by the Examiner.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding objections and rejections of all the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

Initially, Applicant would like to express his appreciation to the Examiner for the detailed Official Action provided, for the acceptance of the drawings filed in the present application on February 5, 2001, and for the acknowledgment of Applicant's claims for priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents, in the Official Action.

Applicant further notes with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgment of Applicant's Information Disclosure Statements filed in the present application on April 23, 2001, February 12, 2003, August 4, 2003 and August 4, 2004 by the return of the initialed and signed PTO-1449 Forms, and for consideration of the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statements.

Turning to the merits of the action, the Examiner has objected to Figs. 9 and 10 because of typographical errors. By the present amendment, Applicant has eliminated the typographical errors and has submitted replacement pages without the errors. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

The Examiner has objected to specification because of informalities. By the present amendment, Applicant has amended the specification to eliminate the informalities. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

The Examiner has objected to claims 3 and 12 as being dependent upon rejected base claims. By the present amendment, Applicant has rewritten claims 3 and 12 into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims. In so doing, Applicant has also revised the claim language for clarity without narrowing the scope of the claims.

Further, Applicant notes that the Examiner has objected to claim 2, which is the base claim of claim 3, and suggested that "said receiver" be changed to ---said mail receiver---. Applicant submits that this suggested change, while appreciated, is incorrect. As used in the present claim 2, "said mail receiver" refers to a component of the Internet facsimile apparatus. In contrast, "receiver" refers to a recipient of the image information. To clarify this matter, Applicant has now used the term "destination". Thus, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

In view of the above-noted change in terminology, the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. 35 § 112 (first paragraph) rejection is also overcome.

Further, Applicant notes that claims 19 and 20 have been newly submitted, and that claims 19 and 20 relate to the subject matter of claims 3 and 12. Thus, these claims are also submitted to be patentable over the recited prior art.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2, 4, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The Examiner also has rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by OTSUKA et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,700,674 B1). The Examiner further has rejected to claims 5, 7, 8, and 14, 16, 17 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over OTSUKA et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,700,674 B1) in view of TERA0 (U.S Patent No. 6,389,121). The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over OTSUKA et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,700,674 B1) in view of SAITO et al (U.S Patent No. 6,618,749 B1). By the present amendment, Applicant has canceled these rejected claims and respectfully submits that these rejections have thus been rendered moot.

Applicant respectfully notes that the cancellation of the rejected claims has been done merely to expedite the prosecution of the present application and thus should not be taken as an acquiescence in the appropriateness of the rejections. Further, Applicant expressly reserves the right to submit claims of a corresponding scope in another application. Thus, the cancellation of the claims in the present application is without prejudice.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections, and requests an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application, in due course.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

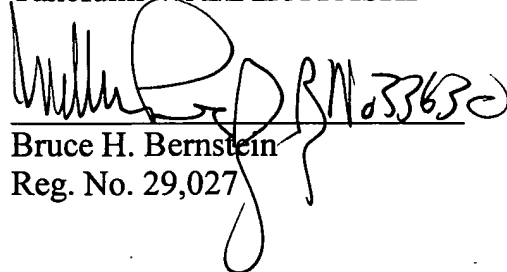
Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes that he has now done so. Applicant has canceled the rejected claims, has amended the objected to claims, and has submitted new claims for consideration by the Examiner. With respect to the new claims, Applicant has pointed out that the new claims are related to the objected to claims. Accordingly, Applicant has provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all claims in the present application and respectfully requests an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application, in due course.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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